



LIFE WITH PURPOSE IN THE LIVING GOD

To everything there is a season...

ECCLESIASTES

Without God, who can eat or drink or find enjoyment?


Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost • August 24 & 25, 2019

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

627 S. Washington Street
New Ulm, MN

www.stjohnsnewulm.com

Email: stjohnsnewulm@gmail.com

 facebook.com/stjohnsnewulm

507-354-6744

Pastor Jeffrey Bovee
revbovee@gmail.com
507-225-0158 Cell

Pastor Rob Guenther
pastorguenther@gmail.com
507-240-2433 Cell

Today's service is televised locally

Channel 14 - Comcast: Monday at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Channel 3 - Nuvera: Mondays at 6:00 p.m. & Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. & Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.

Worship Notes

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 24/25, 2019

Prayer before worship: Almighty God, all eyes look to you and you give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing. Without your grace and providence, we have nothing and are nothing. Therefore, dear Lord, grant us contentment, joy, peace, and the knowledge of purpose in our lives as we trust in your power and find satisfaction in knowing you are our loving and benevolent Lord and Savior. We pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Order of Service: *Service of the Word* page 38

OPENING HYMN

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

CW486

FIRST LESSON

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:18-26

"Meaningless! Meaningless!" says the Teacher. "Utterly meaningless! Everything is meaningless."

I hated all the things I had toiled for under the sun, because I must leave them to the one who comes after me. And who knows whether he will be a wise man or a fool? Yet he will have control over all the work into which I have poured my effort and skill under the sun. This too is meaningless. So my heart began

to despair over all my toilsome labor under the sun. For a man may do his work with wisdom, knowledge and skill, and then he must leave all he owns to someone who has not worked for it. This too is meaningless and a great misfortune. What does a man get for all the toil and anxious striving with which he labors under the sun? All his days his work is pain and grief; even at night his mind does not rest. This too is meaningless. A man can do nothing better than

to eat and drink and find satisfaction in his work. This too, I see, is from the hand of God, for without him, who can eat or find enjoyment? To the man who pleases him, God gives wisdom, knowledge and happiness, but to the sinner he gives the task of gathering and storing up wealth to hand it over to the one who pleases God. This too is meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

PSALM of the DAY

Psalm 34

CW p. 80

Lectern side sing odd numbered verses; Pulpit side sing even numbered verses; All join for Gloria Patri

SECOND LESSON

James 5:1-11

Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you. Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes.

Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. Look!

The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord

Almighty. You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you. Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield

its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door! Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the

prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

GENERAL VERSE

p. 40

GOSPEL

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; a man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions." And he told them

this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man produced a good crop. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I'll say to myself, 'You have plenty of good things

laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry.'" "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' "This is how it will be with anyone who stores up things for himself but is not rich toward God."

HYMN of the DAY

What Is the World to Me

CW477

SERMON

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:18-26

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF LIFE?

1. MEANINGLESS FROM A WORLDLY STANDPOINT
2. MEANINGFUL THROUGH FAITH FIXED ON JESUS

APOSTLES' CREED

p. 41

OFFERING

PRAYERS and LORD'S PRAYER

p. 42

HYMN

Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

CW 484

CLOSING HYMN

We Give Thee but Thine Own

CW 485

† † †

PREACHER

Pastor Jeff Bovee

PRESIDING MINISTER

Pastor Rob Guenther

ORGANIST

Craig Hirschmann

MLC LECTORS

Throughout the year, St. John's asks men who are studying for the pastoral ministry to read for a service. We are in a privileged position to see our Lord's answer to our prayers for future called workers.

6:30 pm

Silas Dose

St. John's, New Ulm, MN

8 am

Jacob Biesterfeld

St. John's, New Ulm, MN

9:30 am

Samuel Boeder

St. John's, New Ulm, MN

11 am

Chris Gorr

St. John's, New Ulm, MN

THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S

| | | |
|-----|----------|---|
| Sun | | Fall Schedule Begins: add 11 am service |
| | 1:30 pm | MVL Opening Service |
| | 7 pm | Confirmation Meeting |
| Mon | 10:15 am | MLC Opening Service |

† Upcoming Services †

Saturday: 6:30 pm
Sunday: 8, 9:30 & 11 am

UPCOMING EVENTS

| | | |
|----------|----------|--|
| Sep 2 | | Labor Day: Church office closed |
| Sep 3 | 4 pm | Oak Hills Living Center Service |
| | 6 pm | Sunday School Teachers' Meeting |
| | 6:30 pm | Education Meeting |
| | 7 pm | Women of St. John's Meeting |
| Sep 4 | 6 pm | Back to School Night at St. Paul's School |
| | 6:30 pm | Public Catechism |
| Sep 5 | 10:30 am | Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings |
| | 7 pm | Adult Bible Class: James |
| Sep 6 | 6:30 am | Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2" |
| | 9:30 am | Women's Bible Class |
| Sep 8 | 9:30 am | Sunday School and Bible Class: A Simple Way to Pray |
| Sep 8-11 | | Pastors' Conference in Dunrovin |
| Sep 9 | 8:10 am | St. Paul's School Opening Service |
| Sep 11 | 6:30 pm | Public Catechism |
| | 7 pm | Mixed Choir |
| Sep 12 | 10:30 am | Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings |
| | 7 pm | Adult Bible Class |
| Sep 13 | 6:30 am | Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2" |
| | 9:30 am | Women's Bible Class |
| Sep 14 | 9 am | Cards of Caring: 403 N. Minnesota St. |
| Sep 15 | 9:30 am | Sunday School and Bible Class: A Simple Way to Pray |
| Sep 16 | 7 pm | Evangelism Meeting |
| | 7 pm | Trustees Meeting |
| Sep 17 | 4 pm | Oak Hills Living Center Service |
| | 7 pm | Council Meeting |
| Sep 18 | 6:30 pm | Public Catechism |
| | 7 pm | Mixed Choir |
| Sep 19 | 10:30 am | Adult Bible Class: 2 Kings |
| | 7 pm | Adult Bible Class |
| Sep 20 | 6:30 am | Breakfast Bible Study, Perkins: "On Giving Advice to God Part 2" |
| | 9:30 am | Women's Bible Class |

ST. JOHN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance for the past weekend was 486 with 383 attending Communion.

Fruits of faith given:

| | | | |
|----------|---|------|-----------------------|
| \$17,190 | Home Operations ~ \$14,806 is our weekly need | | |
| \$742 | MVL ~ \$1,140 is our weekly need | \$30 | LWMS |
| \$1,334 | Missions ~ \$1,681 is our weekly need | \$20 | Endowment Fund |
| \$1,134 | Building Fund ~ \$1,603 is our weekly need | \$10 | MLC Ladies' Auxiliary |

Offering Envelope ~ There is an envelope in the envelope boxes during the month of September labeled 'Ministerial Scholarship Fund.' Offerings placed in these envelopes are used to help support St. John's members that are studying for the public ministry at both Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

Volunteers Needed ~ St. Paul's School "Move Back In" Date Set for Friday, August 30, beginning at 8 am. The construction and refurbishing will soon be at a point that will be ready to move boxes and furniture back into the classrooms. Since the elevator is not completed yet, boxes will need to be carried or wheeled from the gym to the upper classrooms. Those willing and able to help are invited and encouraged to help on Friday.

Women of St. John's Meeting ~ will be Tuesday, September 3 beginning at 7 pm at the MLC Library. For those who have not been to the library, there are a great number of stairs. There is an elevator available for those who need it. The closest parking is right next to the library, entering campus from Center Street. The topic will generally be the library itself and what is available for the WSJ. Specifically, we look forward to introducing the ladies to the library media center and how they can use it. The focus will be on the Ellison die cuts for card making, decorations, banners, gift wrapping, etc..

Breakfast Bible Study - On Giving Advice to God Park 2 ~ Want to deepen your faith? Join us Friday mornings at 6:30 am at Perkin's Restaurant to be fed both physically and spiritually starting Friday, September 6th. We'll be reading through Prof. Em. Daniel Deutschlander's new book, "On Giving Advice To God," (Part 2) and discussing it. If you'd like to have a copy of your own to read along, fill out the form in the narthex. The cost of the book is \$20. (Feel free to sign up to order a copy even if you can't attend the breakfasts).

Cards of Caring ~ Fall is coming and school is beginning, so it is time again for St. John's "Cards of Caring" volunteers to meet for fellowship and to make cards for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and birthdays for our "Homebound" and "Thinking of You" members. We will meet on the following Saturdays: September 15, October 19, and November 16. You are welcome to join us any time between 9 am and noon as your schedule permits. We will again meet at 403 N. Minnesota St. (front door is on 4th North St.). We welcome MLC students and members ages 12 and older. There are activities for everyone to do. No "card making skills" are required. For information, contact Lois Willems at 507-676-1230.

Update Email Addresses ~ In an effort to reach all our members please fill out the Email Address card which can be found in your bulletin box. Feel free to use the back side for additional family members, if needed. Please give to an usher or put in the box in the narthex.

LWMS Fall Rally and Invitation ~ September 21 is right around the corner and St. John's will be hosting the Fall LWMS rally that morning. LWMS is a WELS organization that supports the work of our missionaries both at home and abroad. If you are a confirmed WELS woman then you are a member of LWMS! Our rally on September 21 will focus on the work that is going on in Brazil as we invite Missionary Flunker and his wife to share with us the blessings of their ministry. There are a variety of volunteer opportunities for the women of the congregation to sign up for. Signup sheets can be found in the new narthex or online at bit.ly/LWMSFallRally. Many hands make light work! Please note that both men, women, and children (with free babysitting) are invited to this event. The day begins with coffee fellowship at 8 am and concludes with a delicious authentic Brazilian meal at 12:15. Look for signup sheets to attend in the new narthex!

St. John's Youth Group ~ Area Teens are Invited to Celebrate Missions at a teen retreat which is held at Martin Luther College on Sunday, September 22 from 2 - 5:30 pm. The teens will be hosted by your area Kingdom Workers Regional Mission Team. Students will: complete a service project- "Healthy Living Kits" for infants to teens in need; meet new teens and enjoy current friendships; share and hear mission trip experiences; have some entertainment and fun; learn about Martin Luther College; and enjoy supper in the MLC Cafeteria. Register online at bit.ly/CelebrateMissions2019. Contact Karen Grunwald with questions at kmgrunwald@comcast.net. Items that could be donated for the Healthy Living Kits include infant or child shampoo, bars of soap, small packages of Wet Ones, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hand sanitizer, First Aid to Go packs, lip balm, washcloths, small packages of tissues, hand lotion, dental floss, combs, or deodorant. Please consider unscented items, if possible.

St. John's Member Gifts to St. Paul's Building Project ~ To better keep track of our member's support to the St. Paul's Lutheran School Building Project, you may write checks to St. John's Church and identify in the memo that it is for the SPL Building Fund. These gifts can be placed in the weekly offering basket or taken to the church office. Should you wish to send a gift directly to St. Paul's Church or school, please place the words: "St. John's Member" in the memo of those checks. Thank you for your support!

AREA ANNOUNCEMENTS

Back to School Night at St. Paul's School ~ Mark your calendars! St. Paul's will be having a Back to School Night on Wednesday, September 4th from 6 - 8 pm at school. This night will replace home visits and will be a great opportunity to see the addition and classroom renovations before school starts. More information will be sent to the school families.

MVL Announcements ~ *Food Service Position* The Food Service at Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School is looking for a part-time dishwasher for the 2019-2020 school year. Hours are 11 am until about 2:30 pm. Duties include washing and putting away dishes, flatware, and tables during school lunches, as well as helping sweep and mop floors. If you are interested, please contact MVL Principal, Dr. Plath at tplath@mvlhs.org or 507-354-6851. *Opening Service and Installation* The 2019-20 school year will begin on Sunday, August 25. The Opening Service will take place in the MVL gym at 1:30 pm. We will also be installing our new teacher, Hailey Johnson. All are invited! *Booster Club Annual Meeting* All MVL parents and interested supporters are encouraged to attend the Booster Club's annual meeting the afternoon of Sunday, August 25. The meeting will begin 30 minutes after the close of the Opening Service. Questions can be directed to David Bendix at dcbendix@gmail.com.

Summit Avenue Music Series ~ The Summit Avenue Music Series opens its 2019-20 season "Strings Attached" with a concert titled "Tangos et cetera" on Sunday, September 15 at 3 pm at Martin Luther College's Chapel of the Christ, New Ulm. Performers are Leonardo Altino on cello, Soh-Hyun Park Altino on violin, and Bethel Balge on piano. Season and individual passes available at summitavenuemusic.com. The Altinos will also give a free presentation "Growing up in Korea and Brazil: A Musical Journey", on Saturday, September 14 at 10 am in the Chapel of the Christ.

OWLS Meeting ~ Monday, September 16 at St. Paul's: 11:30 Fellowship; 12:00 Potluck; 12:45 Devotion and presentation by Pastor Sutton. The Topic: The Doctrine of the Call into the Public Ministry. Never has our need for more full time workers been greater and MLC's role in training more crucial. Seniors of our churches are reminded that the next deadline for the October WELS Convention for Seniors is September 6. Convention information including a printable registration form can be found at wels.net/owls or request the same by calling Becky Markgraf at (507) 276-4129.

Men of His Word 2019 ~ Men, with all of the pressures of this world in your family life/work life/social life, and with all of the temptations of Satan around every corner, do you find it difficult to be the Christian man you desire to be and God expects you to be? A one-day event is being planned in Rochester, MN to refocus our attention to the fact that our life foundation as Christian men is **Built on the Rock** of Jesus. Set aside Saturday, October 26th, on your calendar. Pastor Jeremy Mattek from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Greenville, WI will be our keynote speaker. Koine, a well-known WELS worship band, will lead us in worship. There are 12 fantastic breakout sessions to choose from! Whether you are just entering the realm of being a man as a teen or you have years of experience in this department, these sessions are designed to better connect us to Christ and help us be the men Christ expects us to be. If you want more details, go to www.menofhisword.org for more details and for registration information.

Holy Land Tour ~ You are invited to join a 10 day tour to the Holy Land. The tour dates are April 28 - May 7, 2020. Many places of the Bible will "come alive" for you: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, Mt. of Olives, Garden of Gethsemane, Sea of Galilee etc. The tour host will be retired pastor Eugene Kock, who has been to the Holy Land 27 times. For more information, please contact him at pastorkock@yahoo.com.

Job Opening ~ Martin Luther College is now accepting applications for a full-time Administrative Assistant for Human Resources. A comprehensive description of this position can be found at mlc-wels.edu/hr. Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, September 3, 2019. Additional information and details can be obtained by contacting the Martin Luther College Human Resources Office at 507-354-8221.

About the Cover ~ Solomon was perhaps the wisest man who ever lived, next to Jesus Christ himself. He was also extremely wealthy and had everything money could buy and more. But from a human standpoint, he looked around at his life on earth and called it meaningless. Although there may be many pleasures and comforts afforded by this world, none can really satisfy or grant lasting happiness. It was not until God entered into the picture that Solomon understood the true meaning of life and the purpose for which we live. God is the key. His salvation is the treasure. He alone gives life purpose.